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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

25X1

INFORMATION REPORTCD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 28 JUL 50

SUBJECT Forced Labor Camp at Pardubice

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1. Personnel at the forced labor camp at Pardubice includes:

- a. Camp commander: Josef Grun, a Communist and member of the STB, residing at Chrudim.
- b. Guard inspector: Josef Kocman, a Communist and cadre member of the Communist Party at Pardubice.
- c. Educational Officer: Pospesch, a Communist. By describing the miseries of Czech refugees in camps in the American Zone of Germany, which he claims to have visited personally, he causes the prisoners to make favorable comparisons between their lot and that of the refugees. Assisting Pospesch are a warrant officer of the SNB and an SNB candidate for the women's section of the educational office.

The camp commander, the educational officer, his assistant and the inspector of the guard are the only members of the Communist Party at the camp. It is believed that with the exception of Dr. Macoun, a former colonel of the SNB and SNB commander in the district of Hradec Kralove, there are no officers imprisoned at this camp.

2. The guards are armed with model CZ 24 automatic rifles. With a few exceptions the guards treat the prisoners well, but there appears to be a change in this treatment at the present time. The morale of the prisoners is bad; at work the guards force a faster pace by rough handling of the men. Escape from the camp is quite easy with outside help.

 it would have been possible to occupy the entire camp with the aid of five men.

3. The daily routine at the camp was as follows:

- 5 a.m. Reveille.
Breakfast of black bread and coffee.
Washing and shaving.
- 6 a.m. Roll call in prison yard IV.
Departure for work.

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5 p.m. Return from work.

Supper. The food was in general good with meat served four times a week.

7 p.m. Irregular political educational courses; from time to time a Soviet propaganda film was shown.

4. Prisoners were assigned to work for any national enterprise in Pardubice which requested them. The national enterprise, Waste Raw Materials Plant, formerly the Vaclav Petracek firm, receives ten prisoners every day. The plant is responsible for the guarding of the men while under its jurisdiction. The prisoners must work outside regardless of the weather, and since they have no change of clothes, often must work many days in wet clothes. Prisoners also work in foundries, as bricklayers' helpers and on road construction. The relationship between the workers on these various projects and the prisoners is friendly and hearty. Workers offer the prisoners food and carry messages between the prisoners and their family or friends.

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